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EDC 102

FAE Chapters 2 and 3 Reflection

After reading Chapters 2 and 3 in *Foundations American Education*, there were some passages that I found interesting. There were other passages in Chapter 2 that I found interesting but the two passages below were what I believed to be most interesting. In Chapter 2, it is mentioned that Emma Willard and several others were activists for women’s education and I think that sometimes people forget that women didn’t always have the opportunity to get an education. Today, women can attend college and receive an associate’s degree, a bachelor’s degree, a master’s degree, a Ph.D, etc. but there was once a time when women couldn’t attend college at all. I also found it a little surprising that private schools existed before public schools. But after thinking about it, it makes more sense because the wealthier families were able to pay for their children to go to school and then from that, the public schools began to form so that more children had access to education.

After reading Chapter 3, I thought it was interesting that colonial elementary school teachers were not prepared for teaching and usually only had an elementary school education themselves. However, most colonial college teachers, private tutors, etc. had at least some of a college education (Johnson et al., p. 67). Granted they may not have had the qualified candidates that wanted to be elementary school teachers but for most, if not all colonial children, they were receiving an education in their formative years who really wasn’t suited for the job. Today, that would never be allowed to happen and I know that elementary school teachers must receive some degree of higher education beyond a bachelor’s degree within a certain time period if they want to continue to teach. I think that that shows that the education system in America has come a long way in terms of preparedness because today, we want the youth of America to receive the best education possible when they are at a young age.